

## Message Text

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ACTION INT-08

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ADP-00 EB-11 COME-00 SCEM-02

OMB-01 TRSE-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 USIA-15 PRS-01 L-03

SAJ-01 RSR-01 /125 W

----- 115471

R 171431Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4667

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L VALLETTA 1690

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, MT

SUBJ: NEW OIL CONCESSIONS

FOR INTERIOR

REF: VALLETTA 1521 (NOTAL)

1. ACCORDING TO INDUSTRY SOURCES, NINE COMPANIES OR GROUP OF COMPANIES PURCHASED SEISMIC DATA WHICH WAS CONDITION FOR APPLICATION ON 16 NEW MALTA CONCESSIONS. OF NINE SHELL OIL APPARENTLY DECIDED NOT RPT NOT BID ON NEW CONCESSIONS. OF REMAINING EIGHT, INDUSTRY SOURCE BELIEVES PHILIPS/GETTY BID REJECTED. OTHERS STILL UNDER CONSIDERATION ARE AQUITAINE, MONTEDISON, TOTAL/SUN OIL CO., AGIP/DEMINEX, GULF/SOCAL, TEXACO, AND SUMMIT/TRANSWORLD/LA TERRE/INTERCONTINENTAL.

2. REPRESENTATIVES OF TWO OF ABOVE GROUPS HAVE CALLED AT  
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EMBASSY FOLLOWING REQUEST BY GOM OIL COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS

THEIR BIDS IN FURTHER DETAIL AUGUST 16. JACK KNOX, PRESIDENT SUMMIT ENERGY, AND DWIGHT EASTERLY OF LA TERRE (SEE REFTTEL) ENCOURAGED BY GOM REACTION THEIR BID. SIMILARLY, DONALD L. PARNELL, VICE PRESIDENT TEXACO INTERNATIONAL, AND MR. HUSBAND, TEXACO GEOLOGIST, HOPEFUL THEY WILL RECEIVE ONE OR MORE OF EIGHT BLOCKS WHICH THEY SUBMITTED BIDS ON. BOTH BIDDERS IMPRESSED WITH PROFESSIONALISM WITH WHICH AWARD OF CONCESSIONS THUS FAR BEING HANDLED. DEPENDING ON AVAILABILITY DRILLING RIGS CAPABLE OPERATING AT DEPTHS 500 TO 600 FEET, TEXACO REPS INDICATED TO GOM THAT THEY PREPARED UNDERTAKE EXPLORATION AS SOON AS AGREEMENT SIGNED AND COULD CONCEIVABLY FIND RECOVER-  
ABLE RESERVES AND BE IN PRODUCTION WITHIN THREE YEARS' TIME.

3. COMMENT: ADMITTING OIL DISCOVERY ALWAYS LONG SHOT, WAY IN WHICH TEXACO BID MADE TO GOM OBVIOUSLY NOT WITHOUT ATTRACTION FOR MALTA LABOR PARTY ADMINISTRATION WHICH WILL BE FACING REELECTION IN THREE YEARS' TIME.

4. IN ANTICIPATION POSSIBLE INCREASED OFFSHORE EXPLORATION ACTIVITY, REPRESENTATIVES ANGLO-FRENCH OFFSHORE SURVEYS MET WITH MEMBERS OF GOM OIL COMMITTEE IN EARLY AUGUST TO DISCUSS POSSIBILITY PROVIDING OFFSHORE SERVICES, INCLUDING RADIO FIXING. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, ANGLO-FRENCH OFFSHORE SURVEYS IS A CONSORTIUM FORMED BY COMPAGNIE GENERALE DE GEOPHYSIQUE, KELVIN INDUSTRIES LIMITED AND OCEAN INCHCAPE LIMITED. THE CONSORTIUM IS REPRESENTED LOCALLY BY EDWARD VON BROCKDORFF OF MALTA OFFSHORE SUPPLIS AND SERVICES LTD.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 AUG 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** smithrj  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** GS GETZ  
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**Reference:** VALLETTA 1521 (NOTAL)  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** smithrj  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 18 SEP 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <18-Sep-2001 by elyme>; APPROVED <21-Nov-2001 by smithrj>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** NEW OIL CONCESSIONS FOR INTERIOR  
**TAGS:** ENRG, MT  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005